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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/20/16

SPONSOR Maestas Barnes **LAST UPDATED** _____ **HB** 114

SHORT TITLE NMSU Micro Grid & Renewables Research **SB** _____

ANALYST Mulligan

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY16	FY17		
	\$250.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

- Relates to HB2, Section 4J, Higher Education, appropriation to New Mexico State University

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Higher Education Department (HED)
New Mexico State University (NMSU)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

HB 114 would appropriate \$250.0 from the general fund to New Mexico State University to support the Southwest Technology Development Institute's (SDTI's) work in expanding research and training in microgrids and renewable energy technologies.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Funding for the project is not included in the LFC recommendation. The current level of funding for SDTI is not specified. NMSU indicates that current funding is project-specific and that the proposed appropriation would represent base funding to address challenges involving improving electric supply costs and reliability while integrating renewable energy.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

HED indicates that NMSU submitted this as a new RPSP request, but that HED did not recommend funding for this project.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

According to NMSU, the funding will allow them to:

- pursue programs that lead to prototype development, evaluation, and commercialization for grid modernization, which will directly contribute to cost savings and economic development;
- continue to be a ‘go-to’ place for federal programs and industry for independent evaluation of renewable-related technology and advanced workforce development; and
- deliver promising technology, systems and solutions to industry to enhance cost savings and improve reliability.

MM/jle